



SDMS DocID 2074862



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

June 23, 2006

Refer to
ACC: KMH
06-1416

VIA EXPRESS MAIL

Mr. Harry R. Steinmetz (3HS62)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

**Re: Response to CERCLA Section 104(e) Information Request for Safety Light
Corporation Site, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania**

Dear Mr. Steinmetz:

Enclosed is the response of the United States Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") to the above-referenced Information Request regarding its former laboratory located in Baltimore, Maryland ("CUSTOMS LAB"). This office contacted counsel for U.S. EPA on the matter, Ms. Humane Zia, and received a time extension to respond until July 3, 2006. Please contact Kristopher Huelsman, an attorney on my staff, at (317) 614-4424, should you have any questions concerning this response.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bloxsome
Jeffrey S. Bloxsome
Assistant Chief Counsel

cc: Humane Zia (w/encl.)
Christopher Oh (w/encl.)
Ira Leese (w/encl.)

**RESPONSE TO CERCLA SECTION 104(e) INFORMATION REQUEST BY U.S.
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**

1. **Request:** Describe in detail the business relationship between CUSTOMS LAB and Safety Light.

Response: Insufficient information is available to respond to this question. Review of the document attached to the Information Request would appear to be a ledger that indicates the CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore acquired radioactive sources for use with gas chromatographic equipment. It is unknown whether the CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore had a business relationship with Safety Light.

2. **Request:** Did the CUSTOMS LAB ever transport and/or broker hazardous substances and/or radioactive waste or other waste that were disposed of or reclaimed by U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal or Isolite to the Site?

Response: Available information does not indicate that the CUSTOMS LAB brokered or transported hazardous substances or radioactive waste or any other waste to the Site. It is believed that once it closed in the early 1980's, all of the documents and equipment of the former CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore were transferred to the Customs laboratory in New York. The Customs laboratory in New York was located at 6 World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the disaster of September 11, 2001. As a result, it is believed that all documents and equipment related to the former CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore may have been destroyed. To the extent that such documents and equipment were not destroyed, their whereabouts are unknown.

3. **Request:** If you answered "yes" to Question 2, please answer the following questions: [a.through c.i.-c.vi.].

Response: Not applicable.

4. **Request:** Did the CUSTOMS LAB ever generate radioactive wastes or other wastes that were disposed of or reclaimed by U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal, or Isolite at the Site?

Response: Available information does not indicate that the CUSTOMS LAB generated hazardous substances or radioactive waste or any other waste that were disposed of or reclaimed at the Site. It is believed that once it closed in the early 1980's, all of the documents and equipment of the former CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore were transferred to the Customs laboratory in New York. The Customs laboratory in New York was located at 6 World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the disaster of September 11, 2001. As a result, it is believed that all documents and equipment related to the former CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore may have been destroyed. To the extent that such documents and equipment were not destroyed, there whereabouts are unknown.

5. **Request:** If you answered "yes" to Question 4, please address the following issues:
[a. through k.]

Response: Not applicable.

6. **Request:** If you have any reason to believe that there may be persons able to provide more detailed or complete responses to any questions contained herein, or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, provide the names, titles, areas of responsibility, current addresses, and telephone numbers of such persons as well as additional information or documents they may have.

Response: CBP is unable to identify additional persons that can provide more detailed responses or additional responsive documents.

7. **Request:** For each and every question contained herein, if information or documents responsive to this Information Request are not in your possession, custody, or control, then provide the names, titles, areas of responsibility, current addresses, and telephone numbers of the persons from whom such information or documents may be obtained.

Response: CBP is unaware of any information or documents that are responsive to this Information Request in the custody or control of third parties.

8. **Request:** If you have any other information about other party(ies) who may have information that may assist the Agency in its investigation of the Site, or who may be responsible for the generation of, transportation to, or release of contamination at the Site, please provide such information. The information you provide in response to this request should include the name, address, type of business, and the reasons why you believe the party may have contributed to the contamination at the Site or may have information regarding the Site.

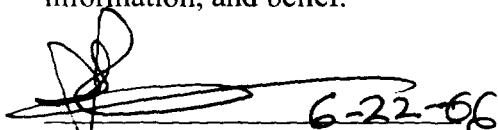
Response: CBP is unaware of any third party that may have contributed

contamination or that may have information regarding contamination at the Site.

9. **Request:** If any of the documents solicited in this information request are no longer available, please indicate the reason why they are no longer available. If pertinent records or documents were destroyed or are missing, provide us with the following:
- a. Your document retention policy;
 - b. A description of how the records were destroyed (burned, archived, trashed, etc.);
 - c. A description of the type of information that would have been contained in the documents; and
 - d. The name, job title, and most current address known by you of the persons(s) who would have produced these documents; the persons(s) who would have been responsible for the retention of these documents; and the person(s) who would have been responsible for the destruction of these documents.

Response: It is believed that documents that may have been responsive to this Information Request were lost in the World Trade Center disaster of September 11, 2001. However, CBP conducted a recent search of records located at the Federal Records Centers in New York and Washington, D.C. (National Archives), as well as CBP records facilities in both locations. The search failed to locate any documents that relate to the former CUSTOMS LAB in Baltimore. Ms. Avis King, CBP records specialist, conducted this records search. Her phone number is (202) 344-2027.

The responses provided herein are truthful and complete to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.





Ira S. Reese
Executive Director, Laboratory & Scientific Services
U.S. Customs and Border Protection



1-800-CALL DHL

1-800-225-5345
www.dhl-usa.com


Page 1 of 1

Print waybill

EXP+		Pieces: 1/1
FIA: Dhe Cbp M. Powell Mail Mgmt Poc Suite 100 8850 Telecom Dr Indianapolis, IN 46278 UNITED STATES Phone: 317-81-4-4415		ORIGIN: SER Sender's ref
To: U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY HARRY R. STEINMETZ (SHS62) 1650 ARCH STREET REGION III PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 UNITED STATES		POSTCODE: 19103 TEL:
Description: 06-141640MH		Time 10:30
Weight: Letter Date: 2006-06-23		
DHL standard terms and conditions apply.		
 (2L)US19103		PTWA 2P
 WAYBILL: 16719914652 (Non-Negotiable)		



10:30^{*} am



* 10:30 am Delivery Not Available to all Locations

All services are subject to DHL's Terms of Carriage and the applicable Convention for the International Carriage of Goods by Air (Montreal Convention). DHL's liability is limited to the amount of the declared value of the goods. For more information, please visit www.dhl.com. Subject to change without notice.

© 2005 All rights reserved.